

In the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings include changes to Figure 7. This sheet replaces the original sheet, including Figure 7.

REMARKS

Amendments

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant has amended the independent claims to more particularly point out that pixels in input images are snapped to a grid of a particular resolution. Claims 4, 17 and 34 have been cancelled. Other claims have been amended to clarify the language and to change dependences. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Objections

Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to Figure 7 as not being labeled as prior art. Applicant has amended Figure 7 accordingly and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection.

Objections to the Claims

The Examiner objected to claim 35 as containing informalities. Applicant has corrected the informalities and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection.

Rejections

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-9 and 11-38

Claims 1-9 and 11-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,657,402 to Bender et al. Claims 4, 17 and 34 have been canceled. Applicant respectfully submits that reference does not disclose each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-16, 18-33 and 35-38.

Bender discloses scaling multiple images taken of the same subject at different focal lengths to a common focal length. The scaled images are combined to create a final image having portions that are at a higher resolution than the corresponding original images.

With regard to claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-16, 18-33 and 35-38, Bender does not disclose snapping pixels of input images to a grid. The Examiner asserted that Bender discloses an irregular sample grid at column 9, lines 28-35. However, this section of Bender discusses information gaps between pixels in some of the images. There is no teaching or suggestion in this section of Bender that the gaps correspond to a grid. Moreover, there is no disclosure in Bender as a whole that discloses snapping pixels to a grid as claimed.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the invention claims in claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-16, 18-33 and 35-38 is not anticipated by Bender under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 10

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bender in view of U.S. Patent 6,155,726 to Ishikawa et al. Applicant respectfully submits that the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claim 10.

Claim 10 depends from claim 1. Therefore Ishikawa must teach, not only the subject matter of claim 10, but also the limitations of claim 1 that are missing from Bender to establish a proper *prima facie* case of obviousness. However, Ishikawa is directed to a coin operated film kiosk and contains no disclosure regarding snapping pixels of input images to a grid as claimed in claim 1.

Therefore, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claim 10, and Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

SUMMARY

Claims 1-3, 5-16, 18-33 and 35-38 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Sue Holloway at (408) 720-8300 x309.

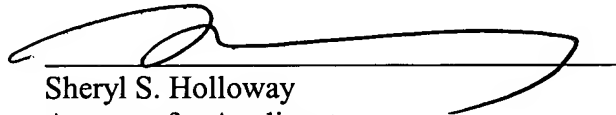
Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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